

idiom

**an expression that means
something different than what
the words actually say**

I wish I could go to the movies, but
I've got to hit the books.

alliteration

**repeating the same initial
consonant sound in neighboring
words**

**Cold caribou cry constantly in
Canada.**

palindrome

**a word or phrase that reads the
same forwards and backwards**

My mom drives her car like it's a
racecar and will toot the horn to
make people move.

metaphor

**comparing two unlike things by
saying that one is the other**

The homework was a breeze.

onomatopoeia

**a word that resembles the
sound it represents**

Our cats meow when they are
hungry and want to be fed.

oxymoron

**a short phrase that combines two
normally contradictory terms**

"That building is a little bit big
and pretty ugly."

- James Thurber

pun

using similar sounding words or phrases, usually in an attempt be funny

Pencils could be made with erasers at both ends, but what would be the point?

- Kap'n Klystron

simile

**comparing two unlike things by
using the words *like* or *as***

The clouds looked like cotton candy.

personification

**giving human qualities, feelings,
action, or characteristics to
inanimate (non-living) objects**

The teddy bear sat slumped on the
bed, looking sadly at its feet.

hyperbole

using exaggeration for
emphasis or effect

The books weighed a ton.

imagery

using the senses of sight, touch, sound, smell and taste to create vivid pictures

Sight: “magnified apples appear and disappear...every fleck of russet showing clear”

Smell: “Essence of winter sleep in on the night, the scent of apples”

“After Apple Picking” by Robert Frost